

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend paragraph [0034] as follows:

[0034] Figure 6 is a flow chart illustrating the use of an interlock system 700 of the present invention with a spider 400 and a top drive 200, and Figure 10 illustrates the mechanics of the interlock system 700 in use with a spider 400, a top drive 200, and a controller 900. At step 500, a casing string 210 is retained in a closed spider 400 and prevented from moving in an axial direction, as illustrated in Figure 8. The casing string 210 includes a cutting member 219 disposed at a lower end. In one embodiment, the spider 400 is a flush mounted spider that is disposed in the platform 160. Referring to Figure 10, the spider 400 includes a spider piston sensor 990 located at a spider piston 420 to sense when the spider 400 is open or closed around the casing string 210. The sensor data 502 is relayed to a controller 900.

Please amend paragraph [0037] as follows:

[0037] At step 510, the top drive 200 is moved to engage a casing 130. In one embodiment, the casing 130 may be stored on a rack 182 next to the wellbore 180. Referring back to Figure 7, the elevator 120 is coupled to the top drive 200 using a piston and cylinder assembly 122 and a pair of bails 124. The piston and cylinder assembly 122 may serve to axially translate the elevator 120 relative to the gripping means 301 of the top drive 200. As shown, the gripping means 301, also known as a gripping head, is an internal gripping apparatus, wherein it may be inserted into the casing 130 to engage an interior surface thereof. In one embodiment, a pivotable mechanism 125 is employed to facilitate the engagement of the gripping means 301 to the casing 130. An example of a suitable pivotable mechanism 125 includes a swivel 125 having a first portion 125A pivotable relative to a second portion 125B. The swivel

125 couples the gripping means 301 to the top drive 200 and allows the gripping means 301 to move or pivot relative thereto. Particularly, first and second portions 125A, 125B include connections means for connecting to the top drive 200 and the gripping means 301, respectively. Preferably, the pivotable mechanism 125 includes a bore therethrough for fluid communication between the top drive 200 and the gripping means 301.